## Department of Public Utilities John R. Doutt, P.E., Director

November 6, 2000

Lisa J. Morris, Chief
Division of Surface Water
Ohio EPA
Lazarus Government Center
122 South Front Street, P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049

Dear Ms. Morris:

I am pleased to submit the Columbus Metropolitan Facilities Plan Update (November 3, 2000) to you.

As you know, we began sharing the draft Columbus Metropolitan Facilities Plan Update with stakeholders beginning in June 2000. Over the subsequent four months, representatives from the City of Columbus shared the draft throughout Central Ohio. While the draft plan represented recommendations by Columbus for the safe, long-term delivery of sewer services for our region, it served only as the beginning point for a discussion with stakeholders.

Our stakeholder consultation efforts were designed to give every regional partner the maximum amount of information and the opportunity to give input on the plan before it was presented to the Ohio EPA as a final document. The City contacted over seventy organizations representing regional sanitary sewer districts, municipal and township officials, county commissioners, and other stakeholders. The City developed a cd-rom presentation describing its proposal. More than two hundred copies of the cd-rom were distributed to stakeholders and placed in every public library in Franklin County. The City placed the draft plan on the City's website and created a feedback button for electronic stakeholder comment. A 90-minute presentation on the draft plan was videotaped and cablecast 8 times between August 29<sup>th</sup> and September 23<sup>rd</sup> on G-TV3, government television. Representatives of the City conducted more than thirty separate stakeholder-briefing sessions.

| Utilities Complex   | 910 Dublin Road   |   | Columbus, Ohio 43215  |
|---|---|---|---|
| Director's Office<br>Sewerage and Drainage Division<br>Water Division | 614/645-6141<br>614/645-7175<br>614/645-7020            | FAX: 614/645-8019<br>FAX: 614/645-3801<br>FAX: 614/645-8177 | TDD: 614/645-6454<br>TDD: 614/645-6338<br>TDD: 614/645-7188 |
| Electricity Division  | 3500 Indianola Avenue<br>614/645-8371 FAX: 614/645-7830 |   | Columbus, Ohio 43214<br>TDD: 614/645-6454                   |

This open process has made our plan better. The draft has been significantly modified as a result of stakeholders' comments. This final Columbus Metropolitan Facilities Plan Update is supported by environmental advocates, developers and representatives of over 80% of the people who live within the Columbus Metropolitan Facilities Planning Area boundary.

We request that the Ohio EPA certify this plan to the U.S. EPA as an update to the Section 208 Areawide Waste Treatment Plan, amending the State's Water Quality Management Plan, within the earliest possible time frame.

Thank you for your guidance and support in this process.

Sincerely

John R. Doutt, P.E., Director

Cc The Honorable Michael B. Coleman Mayor

The Honorable Matthew D. Habash President, City Council

Commenting Stakeholders